



## PROJECT SUMMARY

<b>Ref No.:</b> MRIC/SISM-02/BG-14	<b>Title:</b> Developing craft products using <i>Ravenala Madagascariensis</i> and Textile fabric Waste
<b>Local Institution:</b> Academy of Design and Innovation	
<b>Collaborating Institutions:</b> Sunlife Hotel Management Ltd, SOFAP Ltd, The National Parks and Conservation Service, CIEL Textiles	
<b>Project Leader</b>	
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<b>Research Collaborators</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
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<b>TECHNICAL ABSTRACT</b>	
<p>This project explores the collaborative utilisation of <i>Ravenala Madagascariensis</i> (Ravenala) and industrial textile waste as an innovative alternative raw material for crafting various products. Aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Academy of Design and Innovation's commitment to fostering a circular economy, this eco-friendly initiative makes a modest contribution to environmental preservation while also generating employment opportunities. Ravenala fiber, known for its remarkable tensile strength, has widespread applications in Mauritius, including natural fencing, construction materials, indoor blinds, and crafting various items. Recycling waste fabric from the textile industry, regardless of the scale, addresses a substantial source of pollution, giving it a renewed purpose.</p> <p>Ravenala, an invasive species in Mauritius, and the substantial amount of textile waste leading to landfill pollution necessitate a proactive approach to conform to zero carbon emissions. An iterative design process will be implemented, continuously exploring the potential of this novel raw material for craft products. By combining traditional</p>	



craftsmanship with modern design principles, this research seeks to create a unique and sustainable niche in the local and global craft markets.

**Key Words:** *Ravenala Madagascariensis*, natural fibres, recycling waste fabric, eco-friendly craft products